

Island Fling



April 2014

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
PO Box 30123, Reynolds RPO
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Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland
Web address: www.viscds.ca

Executive Committee

President	Dora Dempster	250-598-0207	doradempster@shaw.ca
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Secretary	Janet Yonge	250-721-3747	jebazett@gmail.com
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Treasurer	Keith Sinclair		klsinc@shaw.ca
Social Convener	Sheila Eaglestone	250-727-6225	eagleroc@shaw.ca
Teacher Representative	Sue Langridge	250-592-5086	langridgesue@shaw.ca

President's Corner April 2014

At the time of writing, registration has reached eighty five for the March 29th social and enrollment in the workshops is high which augers well for a very successful event. Thanks to Jamie and Maureen Orr, Hilary Fedoruk, Sheila McCall, Joan McIntosh and Coordinator Gael Forster for their hard work putting it all together



The AGM will soon be upon us and I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the 2013/2014 executive and to the teachers who devote endless hours to prepare and then deliver such high quality lessons and make it all fun at the same time! It's been a great pleasure working with you all. It's hard to believe that four years have passed since I took office as president of the club but I have enjoyed both the challenges and successes of each year. 2010/2011 came with considerable challenges including the impending closure of the St Martin-in-the-Fields church early in January 2011, leaving us scrambling for new venues for our classes and socials. We were also faced with a cash shortage and a deficit budget as we experienced a drop in membership, and the loss of government grants formerly available for cultural activities. In February 2011 we hosted our first Dance Days Ceilidh and it was hugely successful with over on hundred and twenty dancers in attendance including seventy-five guests. It was also the year we designed and launched our new website.

After a year of dancing in various venues across the city we were delighted when the Victoria Full Gospel Fellowship church bought the church and by January 2012 we had re-established ourselves at 550 Obed Ave. One of the highlights for me that summer was the visit of twenty-two young Scottish fiddlers, known as the Strathspey Fiddlers, who ran a very special Ceilidh dance for us. In 2012/2013 we hosted our first New Year's dance and our first Valentines Tea dance.

In the intervening years we have steadily raised our profile and our membership and ended 2013 with one hundred and forty one members only to be surpassed this year with one hundred and forty four members. This year we introduced the Beyond Basic Social class which has provided an opportunity for our newer dancers to learn a wider variety of dances and to feel more comfortable attending our Socials. It has proven to be a very popular class drawing in members of all levels and Bob has ensured that we all had a good time while learning a wide variety of dances.

All of this could not have been achieved without the strong support of our members who have attended many of our promotional events, ever ready to pitch in and to help run the Ceilidhs and frequently bringing guests who subsequently joined the club. Most of all I would like to thank the teachers who have made all these special events so successful and to thank the members of the executives over the last four years who have helped make the club as strong as it is. Special mention to the Demonstration Team who represent us at special cultural events and spend long hours practicing and perfecting their routines and delighting us with their performances.

Coming up

If there is enough interest, we plan on running six extra basic classes on Tuesday nights starting on April 15th. The price of the classes is \$36 for all six classes or \$24 for four classes. The classes are open to all members so please come and meet our newer members.

Also starting the third week of April and running until the end of May, we will be holding our **Spring Mini Socials** (former thronie nights) from **7:30 to 9:30** pm (\$5 entry). These will be held on either Tuesday or Thursday nights depending on whether or not we get enough dancers to run the spring classes. I will send a notice out as soon as that decision has been made.

On Saturdays from **May 31st to August 9th** join teacher Bob Anderson for **Summer Dancing** at the City Light Church, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. This marks the 25th year that Bob has hosted summer dancing and it is open to all levels of dancers so come and enjoy the fun and laughter! We provide the food and Bob provides the dance program (which will be published and distributed beforehand).

I hope to see you all at the Annual General meeting followed by dancing on **Thursday April 10th** at 7:30 pm. **April 26th** is the date for our **Spring Fling** social hosted by the basic class. Many thanks to all of you for your strong support over the past four years. It's been great fun and I look forward to working with the new president and executive in the year ahead.

Dora Dempster, President

Newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is **April 26, 2014**. Please send submissions to enchapma@shaw.ca.

VISCDS Annual General Meeting

Third Notice: Thursday April 10th, 2014

City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave, 7:30 p.m.

All members are encouraged to attend. Please submit any business and/or proposals for the AGM in writing to Janet Yonge, Secretary, no later than April 1st.

Nominations for Executive positions for 2014/2015

The nominating committee is looking for nominees to fill the two positions of **Treasurer** and **President** of the Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society. We are asking you to consider putting your name forward for these vacancies on the Executive. Dora has served 4 years as President and is now required to step down. She will serve as past President on the Executive and will provide continuity and experience, although as a non-voting member of the Executive. She has also offered to continue to run promotional events on behalf of VISCDS, including the Ceilidhs that have taken place twice a year. As you all know, the society is run by members volunteering their services; please give this serious consideration.

The following nominees have agreed to let their names stand.

President: Margaret Mercer

Treasurer: Jamie Orr

If you are interested in running for either of these positions or any other position on the Executive, please contact the nominating committee. The Nominating Committee members are:

Andrew Harley, (250)592-8762, aharley@shaw.ca

Linda Foley (250)881-1536, brady-bunch@shaw.ca

Andrew Harley

Linda Foley

Invitation to the “40 + 40” Anniversary Dance

To celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversaries Maureen & Jamie Orr and Rosemary & Walter Balfour invite you all to a Scottish Country Dance on Saturday May 24, 2014 at 7:30 pm, at the City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Avenue. Our wonderful accordionist **Mary Ross** will be playing the music.

Admission is free. No cards or gifts please, but a small plate of goodies for the dancers would be appreciated. Please bring your own cup and plate.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Rosemary and Walter Balfour

Maureen and Jamie Orr

40 + 40 Anniversary Dance
May 24, 2014
7:30 pm
City Light Church Hall, 550 Obed Ave.
Music by Mary Ross
Free Admission

Dance Name	Bars, type
Good hearted Glasgow	8x32 J
Shiftin' Bobbins	8x32 R
The Moray Rant	3x48 S
Postie's Jig	4x32 J
Bratach Bana	8x32 R
Sugar Candie	8x32 S
The Bees of Maggie Knockater **	4x32 J
The Garry Strathspey	4x32 S
The Montgomeries' Rant	8x32 R
Break	
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	4x32 J
Catch the Wind	8x32 H
Bonnie Stronshiray **	8x32 S
A Trip to Bavaria	4x32 R
The Irish Rover	8x32 R
The Belle of Bon Accord	4x32 S
Mairi's Wedding	8x40 R
Extras	
The White Heather Jig	4x40 J
The De'il among the Tailors	8x32 R
** Briefing only, no walk through	

Congratulations to Maureen and Jamie, and Rosemary and Walter, on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversaries!

Spring Fling

Just a reminder of our last social of the season, on April 26 at the City Light Church Hall, Obed Avenue, 7:30 pm; \$10.00. This social is being hosted by the Basic Class, so please come out and support them as they host their first social. The program was in the March *Fling*. Please bring your own cups and plates.

COMING EVENTS – LOCAL Scottish Country Events

- April 10th** Annual General Meeting, 7:30 pm, City Light Church Hall. See third notice in this issue.
- Apr - May** Social dancing, 7:30 pm, City Light Church Hall, Obed Avenue, \$5.00. The day – either Tuesday or Thursday - to be confirmed.
- April 26th** Spring Fling Social, City Light Church Hall, Obed Avenue, 7:30 – 10:30 pm. \$10.00. The program was in the March issue.
- May 17th – 18th** Victoria Highland Games. We will have an information booth. Further information and sign-up sheets will be available soon.
- May 24th** 40 + 40 Anniversary Dance, City Light Church Hall, Obed Avenue, 7:30 pm. Hosted by Rosemary and Walter Balfour and Maureen and Jamie Orr. Music by Mary Ross. Admission is free but please bring a small plate of goodies to share. Please bring your own plates and cups. The program is in this issue.
- May 31 – Aug 9** Summer Dancing, City Light Church Hall, 7:30 pm. Cost TBA. Further details in May issue.
- August 16th** Ceilidh dance

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Apr 12th** Nanaimo SCD Group Workshop and Tea Dance. Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters and Ruth Jappy. Musicians: Alex Jappy, Julie Smith and Deborah Jones. Further info and registration: www.nanaimoscd.com.
- Apr 26th** RSCDS Hamilton Branch, John Middleton Ball. Also celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Hamilton Branch. Music by The Scottish Accent. Info: www.rscdsHamilton.org.
- May 2 – 4** Youth Weekend West, Western Washington University. Info: www.youthweekendwest.com/
- May 10** Ardbrae Dancers (Ottawa) potluck dinner and dance. Further info: www.ardbrae.org.
- May 2nd – 4th** RSCDS Winnipeg Branch Spring Workshop and Ball. Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Cheryl Durnin. Music: Scotch Measure. Info: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca.
- Jun 28th** RSCDS Seattle Branch and Friday Harbor Dancers Puget Sounds Crossroads, Afternoon Dance, Grange Hall, Friday Harbor. Further info: www.rscds-seattle.org.
- Sep 12 – 14** RSCDS Seattle Branch 40th Fort Worden Weekend, held at Fort Worden State Park and Conference Centre near Port Townsend WA. Application forms will be available soon. Forms and further information: www.rscds-seattle.org. Get your forms in ASAP in order to avoid disappointment as this will be an extremely popular Weekend.

In Memoriam

It is with great regret that we announce the recent passing of *John Haley*. John and his wife, Jean, were members of Van Isle in the 1970's and 1980's. John served as Vice President in charge of Publicity from 1977 – 1979, and he did a good job in the position. John was a medical doctor; he served with the Military in many places throughout the world before starting practice locally as a 'civilian' doctor. He was well-thought-of by his colleagues. We extend sincere condolences to Jean and their family.

Former Victoria Branch members will be saddened to learn of the recent passing of *Vicky Murray*. Vicky danced with the Branch for many years and, even when she could no longer dance, she used to come to the Wednesday class to watch and visit with her dancing friends. Although Vicky danced with the Branch, many Van Isle members will remember her. Those who knew Vicky send condolences to her family.

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of *Elizabeth Thierry* on March 25. The funeral will be held in mid-April at First Metropolitan United Church. Please call the church, 250 388-5188, for details about the funeral. Our heartfelt condolences go to Blain and to their family. Blain was a member of the Victoria Branch and he served on their Executive Committee. He is also a former member of Van Isle.

Edith Chapman